

ROUTE PERMIT
For The
MINNKOTA POWER COOPERATIVE INC.
230 kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT
In
LAKE OF THE WOODS COUNTY, MINNRSOTA

EQB DOCKET No. 05-93-TR-MINNKOTA

In accordance with the requirement of Minnesota Statutes § 116C.575 and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4400, this Route Permit is hereby issued to:

Minnkota Power Cooperative Inc.

Minnkota Power Cooperative Inc. is authorized by this route permit to construct and operate two new 230 kV high voltage transmission lines. Each line is approximately 2,600 feet long and with their associated facilities will be located in the Township 160 North, Range 30 West in the Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 19, and along the western one-half mile of the Northeast ¼ Section 30 in Gudrid Township, Lake of the Woods County, Minnesota.

Approved and adopted this 16th day of June, 2005.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

(Original signed on June 16, 2005 by R.A Schroeder, Chair)

Robert A. Schroeder, Chair

I. ROUTE PERMIT

This route permit authorizes Minnkota Power Cooperative Inc. (Permittee) to construct and operate two 230 kV high voltage transmission lines, each approximately 2,600 feet in length, and associated facilities that will connect the new Lund Substation with the nearby existing 230 kV HVTL. The route within which the two HVTLS will be built is shown on the map that is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. The specific details of the HVTL are described in the "Application to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board for a Route Permit, Lund Substation and 230 kV Line Tap Project", dated March 2005.

II. CONDITIONS

The following conditions shall apply to all phases of construction, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of the HVTLS. The EQB preserves all available remedies for violation of any of these Permit conditions, including revocation or modification of the Permit.

A. CONSTRUCTION CONDITIONS

1. The Permittee shall construct and operate the HVTLS as described in the "Application to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board for a Route Permit, Lund Substation and 230 kV Line Tap Project".
 2. **PLANS.** Following construction of the project the Permittee will provide an "as built" plan and profile.
 3. **FIELD REPRESENTATIVE.** Prior to the start of construction and continuously throughout construction and right-of-way restoration, the Permittee shall designate a field representative responsible for overseeing compliance with the conditions of this Permit. This person (or a designee) shall be accessible by telephone during normal business hours. This person's address, phone number and emergency phone number shall be provided to the EQB, who may make the number available to local residents and officials and other interested persons.
 4. **DRAINAGE TILE.** The Permittee shall promptly repair or replace all drainage tiles broken or damaged by the Permittee unless otherwise negotiated with the affected landowner.
 5. **CLEANUP.** All waste and scrap that is the product of construction, restoration, operation, or maintenance shall be removed from the area and properly disposed of upon completion of each task. Personal litter, bottles, and paper deposited by site personnel shall be removed on a daily basis.
 6. **HAZARDOUS WASTE.** The Permittee shall be responsible for compliance with all laws applicable to the generation, storage, transportation, clean up and disposal of hazardous wastes generated during any phase of the project's life.
- B. PUBLIC SAFETY.** The Permittee shall provide educational materials to landowners adjacent to the right-of-way boundaries and, upon request, to interested people, about the project and any restrictions or dangers associated with the transmission line.

- C. The Permittee shall also implement any necessary safety measures necessary to protect the public, such as, warning signs and gates to restrict public access.

D. ELECTRICAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

1. The permittee shall construct and operate the HVTL in such a manner that the maximum steady-state short-circuit current shall be limited to five milliamperes rms alternating current between the ground and any non-stationary object within the HVTL right-of-way including but not limited to, large motor vehicles and agricultural equipment. All fixed metallic objects on or off the right-of-way, except electric fences that parallel or cross the HVTL right-of-way, shall be grounded to the extent necessary to limit the short circuit current between ground and the object so as not to exceed one milliamperes rms under steady state conditions of the HVTL and to comply with the ground fault conditions specified in the National Electric Safety Code.
2. The HVTL shall be constructed and operated so that the electric field measured one meter above ground level shall not exceed 8.0 kV/m rms.
3. Where radio or television interference is caused by the presence or operation of the HVTL, the Permittee shall take whatever action is prudently feasible to restore or provide reception equivalent to reception levels in the immediate area just prior to the construction of the line.

III EXPANSIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

If the Permittee should desire to make any modifications in the HVTL authorized under this Permit, the Permittee shall proceed in accordance with the applicable provisions of Minnesota Rules chapter 4400 regarding a modification of the facility.

IV TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

If the Permittee should desire an amendment in any provision of this Permit, including a request to transfer ownership of the Permit to another person or entity, the Permittee shall proceed in accordance with the applicable provisions of Minnesota Rules chapter 4400 regarding an amendment or transfer of the Permit.

V FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS:

Nothing in this Permit shall be construed to relieve the Permittee from compliance with any federal or state law or regulation.

VI SEVERABILITY:

The provisions of this Permit are severable, and if any provision of this Permit, or the application of any provisions of this Permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances and the remainder of this Permit shall not be affected.